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PAD program

South Simcoe police and Simcoe County paramedics are expanding their partnership to save lives.

2



Fun and food

Bradford Ribfest takes place this weekend.

3



Happy Birthday, Canada!

MIRIAM KING, BRADFORD TIMES

Happy Canada Day! The Lefroy-Belle Ewart Legion Branch 547 celebrated Canada's 148th birthday a little early, with a Canada Day parade on June 28 - featuring a colour party, pipes and drums, and kids waving the Canadian flag. Kirs, 7, and Jillian, 9 wave flags in the parade.

Welcoming the Pan Am spirit

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

As the Pan Am Games Torch makes its way across Ontario, towards Toronto and the start of the Pan American Games on July 10, it will be carried by more than 3,000 torchbearers over a 41-day period, through a total of 130 communities.

Bradford West Gwillimbury is one of those communities. On June 26, the Pan Am Games Torch Relay made its way from the town's GO train station to the public library, where a community celebration welcomed the flame.

There were live performances on the main stage, strolling jugglers, sports demos by the South Simcoe Basketball Club and Genesis Gymnastics, free activities for the kids organized by the Toronto 2015 Pan Am-ParaPan Am Games.

Among the torchbearers were a number of "youth heroes," chosen for their involvement in sport and their communities - young people like Madi Vanstone, Christopher Lotto, Ashley Guay, brothers Anton and Teodor Mlynarczyk.

Teo Mlynarczyk was the community torchbearer, chosen to carry the flame to the library, and light the cauldron on stage.

"It's a really exciting moment," Teo said as he stood on stage in front of hundreds who gathered to watch the ceremony. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I'm having the time of my life!" Both Teo and his brother Anton were

inspired to apply for the relay by seeing the Olympic torch carried through Bradford in 2010. "I saw the excitement on their faces, and I wanted to be part of that," Teo said, calling the relay "pretty cool... an amazing part of Canadian history."

The Toronto 2015 Pan Am-ParaPan Am Games are being hosted as the largest sporting event ever billed by Canada, with 41 countries participating, and 7,000 athletes, accompanied by their coaches and trainers, taking part in over 50 sports.

House leader and MP for York Simcoe Peter Van Loan noted that the Canadian government is a funding partner of the games, and its "Own the Podium" campaign has resulted in "unprecedented success for Canadian athletes," a success that, he suggested, will continue at the Pan Am Games.

Van Loan called the torch relay "an inspiration for young people in our community."

Ann Hoggarth, MPP for Barrie, brought greetings from Premier Kathleen Wynne and Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport Michael Coteau, and told the crowd that "friendship, unity and diversity - those are the values that lie at the heart of the Pan Am and ParaPan Am Games."

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Free Home Evaluations

No injuries in school bus crash



PHIL NOVOSAD/PHOTO

There was a little extra excitement for some Bradford students on the last day of school. On Thursday, June 25, around 4 p.m., South Simcoe Police received a call reporting a school bus involved in a collision on Holland Street West in Bradford. Officers discovered that the bus had made a left turn, striking a car. No one was injured in the collision, and all of the children were safely removed from the bus. The school bus driver was charged with Turn-Not In Safety under the Highway Traffic Act.

Partnership puts AEDs on the front line

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

South Simcoe police and Simcoe County paramedics are expanding their partnership to save lives.

Both are first responders at collisions and medical assist calls, working together to save lives – and jointly responded to 173 medical calls, and 140 Personal Injury collisions this past year.

That partnership has now been formalized, with the launch of the South Simcoe Police Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) program, that will see six Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) installed in police cars, the mobile command unit and aboard the Wardrop II marine vessel.

The launch of the partnership took place on the shores of Lake Simcoe, in Innisfil Beach Park on June 29.

Simcoe County Warden Gerry Marshall was on hand, noting that with a population of 430,000, an estimated nine million tourists per year, and 16,000 businesses, Simcoe County is "a hub of activity, and we need to be prepared for anything that comes up."

Partnerships with police services like South Simcoe help responders be prepared.

"The PAD program is a tremendous success story," Marshall said. "We have 635 AEDs deployed (in the county) and we've saved 12 lives, including a young lad of 10 years old. It can happen to anyone."

Innisfil Mayor Gord Wauchope and Bradford West Gwillimbury Mayor Bob Keffeler both praised the program, which will deploy AEDs on the front lines of policing.

"This is going to save lives," Wauchope said. "I'm really

glad to see there is a defibrillator going on the boat we have here on Lake Simcoe. We have a lot of traffic, up and down the lake."

Keffeler noted that the devices, and "the quick response of other people attending the facilities" at arenas and other public places, have saved at least 12 lives in the County – two in Bradford West Gwillimbury.

He thanked the county's PAD program for supplying the AEDs that South Simcoe police will deploy "in our neighbourhoods, on our roads, at the scenes of accidents where there is trauma."

Two of the easy-to-use AEDs will be in North Division patrol cars, two in patrol vehicles in South Division, one in the mobile command post used at numerous community events, and one on board the marine unit.

"Last year we had 40 calls where police could have used this public safety equipment," said South Simcoe Police Chief Rick Beazley. "At any call our officers may have to offer first aid."

Out on the lake, the marine unit has had to transport patients to shore, where paramedics take over.

"It can take as long as 20 minutes to reach shore, so having an AED on board will save lives," Beazley said.

Chief paramedic Andrew Robert agreed.

"Every minute is less chance of survival," he said. With an AED, "you're increasing the chance of survival up to 85%."

"It's partnerships like this that make communities better. It's partnerships like this that save lives."

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By: **Roger Beaulieu C.F.P.**

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JELLIED Salads are refreshing in the summer time

This one is from Betty Noble, a long time resident of Bradford now living in a retirement home in Aurora.

SALMON SALAD

Mix together: 1 - 3 oz pkg. Lemon jello
1 1/2 cup boiling water
1/4 cup vinegar
1/2 tsp. salt

Chill, stirring occasionally until it begins to thicken.

Fold in: 1/2 cup celery
2 hard boiled eggs, chopped
7 1/2 oz can flaked salmon
2 Tbsp. Drained chopped pickle

Rinse a 6 1/2 cup mold with cold water and fill with above. Chill until firm-unfold onto crisp lettuce and serve plain or with mayonnaise.

Serves 6

This salad can either be put in individual molds as above or in a small dish or mold and served at the table.

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LET'S ALL DO OUR PART!
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Ribfest all geared up for this coming weekend

Corrections

A story published in the Bradford Times on April 1, 2015 incorrectly stated that the business Dolce Decor offers Hunter-Douglas products. Dolce Decor and The Times wish to make it clear that the store is not an authorized Hunter-Douglas dealer.

The Balanced Math program was initially developed by Simcoe County District School Board teacher Lee Spurling, whose work was adapted and introduced at Fieldcrest Elementary School by a team of teachers that included Kristen Muscat-Fennell, Stephanie Skelton, Darrell Bax and Sara Bragg, with help from funding from the Teacher Learning & Leadership Program. The story originally published in the Bradford Times on June 18 did not acknowledge Spurling's work. The Times apologizes for the error.

STAFF

The third annual Bradford Ribfest takes place this weekend, July 3 to 5 at Zehrs Market on Holland St. West — offering more fun, entertainment and food.

Gates will be open from noon to midnight on Friday, 11 a.m. to midnight on Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday — for face-painting, midway rides, carnival games, a mechanical bull, a rib-eating contest, and barbecue ribs and chicken by

five international ribbers: Camp 31, Hawke Gone Wild, Sticky Fingers, Billy Bones BBQ, and Crabby's BBQ Shack.

The festival also features gourmet grilled cheese, funnel cakes, poutine, bloomin' onions, Sweet B's cupcakes and confectionery, and a Bradford Ribfest Marketplace, with over 30 vendors.

The line-up of entertainment includes Blue Rider (Blue Rodeo Tribute), Ul-

imate Urban (Keith Urban Tribute) and Shania Live! on July 3; Carl Rundown Band, Shawn Brady & The Northern Sons, and an AC/Dc Tribute on July 4; and on July 5 Banda Loula at 12:30 p.m., Glenn Marais Band at 2:30 p.m., performances of Beauty and the Beast by Music in Motion — and much more.

The second annual Dunk BWG fundraiser for the Bradford West Gwillimbury Community Initiatives will take place July 5, from noon to 4

p.m. — three balls for \$5, to raise money for BWG Community Initiatives, which runs the Bradford Community Meal and Bradford Community Gardens.

"Dunkies" include local councillors Gary Byrnes, Peter Dykjer Jr., Ron Orr and Raj Sandhu, and "celebs" Cathy Popp McLean (of Zumba in a House), Matt Walker, Elanna Evans of Snap'd, and Brea Bartholet. There will also be a mystery dunker — but you have to be

at Ribfest to find out "Who's coming to the Dunk Tank?"

Each dunker is asked to raise \$250 in sponsorship, before the event — money that will also be going to BWG Community Initiatives. Ribfest is organized by the BWG Events Group, raises money for President's Choice Children's Charity, and other causes. For more information, see www.bradfordribfest.com. Over \$300,000 has been donated in the past two years by the group.

Legion donation gives LOFT a much-needed boost

MIRIAM KINO
Bradford Times

LOFT (Leap Of Faith Together) Community Services operates Bradford House on Barrie St. — a residential facility for vulnerable seniors, and adults with health challenges that require care and assistance.

LOFT, which had its start in 1953 as the charity Anglican Houses, is now one of Ontario's key providers of programs, support and housing for youth, adults and seniors with mental health issues, addictions, physical health and housing needs, in both Toronto and York region. In York Region, LOFT operates Crosslinks Housing and Support Services, and provides outreach programs on the street.

The non-profit organization relies on donations to deliver its services and improve the

quality of life of its clients.

The Royal Canadian Legion's Poppy Fund recently became a donor, presenting LOFT and Bradford House with a \$5,702 donation, to support the purchase of a Hoyer Lift, bath bench and other assistive devices.

On June 25, Fraser McCorkney — past president of the Bradford Legion and current poppy chair — was joined by Ryszard Tatarek, president of Toronto Branch 621, to present the cheque.

The gift benefited one of the younger residents at Bradford House. Loralee is only 48, but her physical challenges made her a candidate for the residence. Too active for a hospital or long-term care centre, she is reliant on her motorized wheelchair and, as program director Carolyn Donaldson explained, "without specialized equipment she cannot

take a shower."

The Hoyer Lift purchased with the donation improved Loralee's quality of life and independence — and she was on hand to thank the legion representatives personally.

Both McCorkney and Tatarek promised future assistance to Bradford House.

"If we can help in any way, I'm sure the executive will open the doors for us. It's all about community," said McCorkney.

Tatarek, noting that LOFT is active in Toronto, promised to bring the charity to the attention of his zone command, "so we will be more involved to help."

Donaldson thanked the legion for its assistance. She spoke of LOFT's 14 programs, and outlined a new partnership with Simcoe County, the Simcoe County Hub. "We're hoping to support 110 people in that (supported housing) program," she said.

Donaldson noted that Bradford West Gwillimbury often falls between the cracks, when it comes to the provision of services — at the south end of the county, and the north end of the GTA. "Bradford we call the 'Bermuda Triangle' — you're not part of York Region, you're not part of Barrie," Donaldson said, noting that LOFT is helping to fill that

gap, through its case management and housing support, keeping vulnerable people within the community, and the valuable programs offered at Bradford House.

Ask Dr. Michelle...



Holland Street Veterinary
Services in the
West Park Plaza

Sometimes it feels like in every second consult I do, someone mentions that their dog has startling episodes where they seem to be choking. In most cases, a quick, visible search to pull up a dog reverse sneezing solves the mystery. This puts the pet's mind at ease instantaneously because reverse sneezing episodes are not at all life threatening (though I will admit they can seem pretty frightening initially). As a veterinarian of the episode is also helpful.

A reverse sneeze (also known as pharyngeal spasm) is precisely what it sounds like. Instead of a forceful outflow of air from the nostrils (sneezing), air is sucked in and results in a series of forceful, loud, snore-like snoring sounds. Reverse sneezing seems more alarming than it is and sometimes gets mistaken for choking, gagging, or even hair loss. It may occur in any dog, but brachycephalic dogs (those with snarled-in faces) like Boston Terriers, Shih Tzus, Chihuahuas, Yorkies and Pugs are predisposed.

Reverse sneezing is caused by irritation of the soft palate and common triggers may include allergies or household chemicals/irritants including perfumes, pollen, changes in temperatures, excitement or pulling on a leash, but brachycephalic dogs (those with snarled-in faces) like Boston Terriers, Shih Tzus, Chihuahuas, Yorkies and Pugs are predisposed. Before and after the spasm, they are perfectly normal. Episodes pass on their own and often times startle the pet guardian and make them feel helpless while their beloved pet appears to be struggling to breathe. If you want to try to help, rubbing on the neck, blowing in the face gently, plugging the nostrils momentarily or offering a treat and/or water might help since it can encourage them to breathe through their mouths instead.

If episodes are frequent, consider discussing possible underlying causes with your veterinarian.

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Opinion

The
Bradford Times

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miriam.king@sunmedia.ca

Point of View

A loss for Bradford

Bradford West Gwillimbury is a remarkable community.

It is a caring community, whose residents have stepped up whenever there is a call for help, or the need for assistance – whether it is a child with special needs, whose family is struggling to provide an accessible environment, or families driven from their homes by a devastating fire.

Volunteers are and have always been its backbone. Working through organizations, service clubs and church groups, through school councils and informal neighbourhood alliances, they have made a difference.

We lost a great volunteer recently. Gerda Slykhuys passed away on June 12 of this year, at the age of 82.

She was a volunteer at the Danube Seniors Leisure Centre, with the Catholic Women's League of Holy Martyrs of Japan, and the Helping Hand Food Bank – and active in the community in countless other ways.

But she brought more than her time and willing hands to her volunteer work. She brought

solid common sense and a sense of humour to all that she did. Gerda demonstrated that being a volunteer was more than work, more than the long, unpaid hours; it was fun.

Her sense of fun was infectious. It made others want to step up and get involved – and kept them involved. She will be missed by more than her loving family and friends. She will be missed by her community.

The town lost another anchor on June 19. That's when the Good Neighbours Committee, founded in 1994, held its final meeting and disbanded. It was established through the Provincial Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration's Seniors Secretariat, to encourage a network of caring in communities, to look out for the elderly, the frail and the housebound – and although the province lost interest in the initiative after a few years, as the province is won't to do, the Bradford West Gwillimbury group kept up its efforts.

They too will be missed. The town is poorer this week.

Bradford Times pays it forward



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

The Bradford Times pays it forward, making a donation to the Helping Hand Food Bank – from left, Bradford Times' Della Whittam, food bank's Anne Silvey, and Gary Assis, sales.

Letters to the Editor

Cat shelter thanks

To the editor: In April, Pet Valu held its Pet Appreciation Month: their annual fundraiser for pets.

On behalf of all the cats and kittens in "a local cat shelter," we would like to express our sincere thanks to Liz and Bob Pegg for their long and ongoing support of what we do. Our thanks also, to their wonderful staff for their assistance throughout the month.

A very special "meow, meow" of thanks to all of you who contributed. Your generosity is very much appreciated. Ours is a labour of love, but to all of you, your kindness and generosity help to make it all worthwhile!

A Local Cat Shelter

Charity golf thank you

To the editor: The Friends of We Care Charity Golf Challenge, co-hosted by Brent Morning and Friends at Cardinal's Kettle Creek course, wants to thank its sponsors – Golf EMS.com, Barber Maintenance & Landscaping, Kingsdale Animal Hospital, Guaranteed Roofing & General Contracting Inc., The Grayco Group Ltd., Orr & Associates Insurance, Halton Crushed Stone, Lee Sand & Gravel, Nashville North, Green Trac-

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Special thanks to supporters Brian Stemmle, Kevin Collins, Kathie Road, Jason McNally and Jim Morning.

Friends of We Care raise funds to send Easter Seals kids to summer camp. The second annual tourney, held June 4, raised \$7,000!

Brent Morning and Friends

POSTMEDIA

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Community in Pictures

Welcoming the Pan Am spirit

CONTINUED FROM > PAGE 1

After the speeches and the lighting of the cauldron, a second group of torchbearers continued the relay along Professor Day Drive – sending the torch on its way to Keswick, the next stop, and then on to Mount Albert, and Whitchurch-Stouffville Memorial Park.

"We're extremely honored to be selected as a celebration site. We are also very proud of all the Bradford West Gwillimbury residents who were chosen (as torchbearers)," said Mayor Rob Keffler. "They represent all of us."

One of the torchbearers was Holy Trinity High School student Sam Diebert. An "avid athlete," participating in high

school sports and soccer, she was selected to carry the torch just two weeks before the relay came to town.

"It was an amazing feeling! Honestly, it was such an honour to be carrying the torch," she said. "It's so exciting. It went by so fast."

Diebert, who will be going into Grade 11 in the fall, was a student at Marie

of the Incarnation Catholic elementary school in 2010, when the Olympic flame came through town. Like several other young torchbearers, it inspired her to say, "Someday I would like to do something like that!"

"It's special for this community, and it's special for Ontario," said torchbearer Shawn Dalrymple.



MURRAY KING/BRADFORD TIMES PHOTOS

Pan Am Games Torch Relay torchbearer Teodor Mlynarczyk lights the cauldron on stage.



Cheering on Team Canada in the Pan Am Games - from left, MP Peter Van Loan, MPP Ann Hoggarth, Zehrs store manager Sebastian Geraci, and BWG Mayor Rob Keffler.



Torchbearer Madi Vanstone was one of the 'Youth Heroes' who carried the Pan Am Games Torch in the Relay as it came through Bradford.



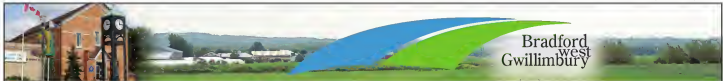
Passing on the flame - Pan Am Games Torch Relay torchbearer Shawn Dalrymple, left, with 'Youth Hero' Christopher Lotto.



Kids enjoy the picnic atmosphere at the Pan Am Games Torch Relay community celebration.



Busker Brant Matthews juggled on his skateboard, keeping the crowd entertained at the Pan Am Games Torch Relay community celebration.



TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Members of the public are invited to attend all Council, Committee of the Whole and other Committee meetings. Meeting dates, times, and agendas are available from the Town's website at www.townofbwg.com.

For further information or to request a deputiation, please contact the Clerk's Division.

Regular Meetings of Council & Committee of the Whole –
Council Chambers, 425 Holland St. W.

• Tues. Aug 4 @ 7:00 p.m. - BWG Library & Cultural Centre, Zima Room

UPCOMING BOARD/COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Police Services Board

• Mon. July 20 @ 7:00 p.m. Town of Innisfil, 2101 Innisfil Beach Road
Committee of Adjustment

• Mon. July 22 @ 8:30 p.m. BWG Library & Cultural Centre, Zima Rm,
425 Holland St. W.

NOTICE

Notice of Application of Larvicide for Mosquito Control in Bradford West Gwillimbury

From July 4, 2015 to August 31, 2015, the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, under the authority of the Simcoe Muskoka Medical Officer of Health will conduct a program to control mosquito larvae (immature mosquitoes) in standing water in order to prevent their development into potential carriers of West Nile virus. The program will be carried out in Bradford West Gwillimbury and includes subdivisions of Galloway, Kilkenny Trail and Foster's Forest and Emery Estates Subdivision.

The larvicide (Altoid Methoprene PCP#21 806), will be applied by direct hand application to catch basins of storm drains in the following area 8th Line to 6th Line and Holland River to Sideroad 10 and subdivisions noted above.

The larvicide (Altoid Methoprene PCP#21 806), is a registered larvicide approved for use by the federal government. This application will be carried out by Ministry of the Environment licensed applicators or trained technicians. For details on the exact locations and date of treatment, call 905-778-2055.

For general inquiries about West Nile Virus, call Your Health Connection at 721-7520 (1-877-721-7520) or click on www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Instructor/Lifeguard
2015-AQFA

Customer Service Representative
2015-C507

A complete description of job duties, qualifications and application instructions for these positions can be found on the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury website at www.townofbwg.com under the Employment Opportunities section, or at the Town's Human Resources office as listed below.

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, Human Resources Department
100 Ossette St. Unit 401 Box 100, Bradford, Ontario L3Z 2A7
Fax: 905-775-9533 or email hr@townofbwg.com

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those being considered for an interview will be contacted, in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, and will only be used for candidate selection.

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation will be provided in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code.

NOTICES

Children's Programming Assistant (Part-time 6 month Contract)

Position Summary

Under the supervision of the Children's Services Librarian, the Children's Programming Assistant will be a key member of the Children's Services team and will assist in the design and delivery of programs for children. The Children's Programming Assistant will be primarily responsible for planning and conducting weekly storytime programs for babies and toddlers. This is a 26 week contract, beginning Aug 24th, 2015 and finishing on Feb 26th, 2016. This position is 10 hours per week and may include evening and weekend shifts. The rate for this position is \$21.19 per hour.

Desired Skills

The ideal candidate will possess the following skills and characteristics:

- Experience in working with children, babies, and families
- Knowledgeable about early literacy development
- Knowledgeable about children's songs, finger plays, stories, and rhymes
- Experience in creating and facilitating innovative programs for children
- Strong public speaking and presentation skills

Requirements

- A Library Technician Diploma or Early Childhood Education Diploma; or
- Equivalent education and work experience in providing programming for children
- Two or more years of experience providing programming for children and families
- A Vulnerable Sector Check

Interested candidates are invited to forward their resume and covering letter by Monday, July 20th, 2015 at 9:30 am to:

Zarena Cassar, Children's Services Librarian
Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library,
425 Holland Street West, Bradford, Ontario L3Z 0J2
bwgmlib@townofbradford.library.on.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those being considered for an interview will be contacted. In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, and will only be used for candidate selection.

The Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation will be provided in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code.

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The Building Department will be remain open from 4:30 - 7:00 pm in addition to regular business hours on July 8, 15, 22, 29 and August 5, 12, 19, 26 to process home-owner's applications for:

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JULY 9: "CINDERELLA"

THURSDAY, JULY 9 AT DUSK

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Kids' Activities • Demonstrations
Outdoor services begin promptly at dusk.
Admission is free!

FREE!

The Outdoor Movies are rated PG & G. Running time is approximately 90 minutes. For more information, contact the Library Director or the Office of the Mayor at 905-775-5369. The Mayor's Office is a member of the Ontario Library Association.

TEMPORARY TRANSIT ROUTE CHANGE Starting July 2

Effective today and until further notice, BWG Transit Route 1 will detour due to construction on Melbourne Dr.

Temporary stops have been set up as shown on the map.

We thank you for your patience and apologize for any inconvenience.



TOWN MANAGER, CLERK'S & FINANCIAL SERVICES
100 DISSETTE ST. UNIT 401, 7 & 8
PO BOX 100 L3Z 2A7
905-775-5366

ENGINEERING
323 BRADFORD ST. UNIT 2
PO BOX 418 L3Z 2A9
905-775-5365

FINANCE
81 HOLLAND ST. UNIT 2
PO BOX 100 L3Z 2A5
905-775-5303

FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES
112-112 DUNDAS ST. W.
PO BOX 1226 L3Z 2B6
905-775-7311

LEISURE CENTRE
471 2ND STREET S.E.
L3Z 6J5
905-775-PLAY(7529)

LEISURE SERVICES
125 SIMCOE ST.
PO BOX 251 L3Z 2A5
905-775-5359

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
2241 LINE 11
PO BOX 100 L3Z 2A9
905-775-5369

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.townofbwg.com

Signs of economic recovery pop up around Bradford

Bradford Times Staff

On June 27, Bradford West Gwillimbury council members were busy — cutting the ribbon to open a new business downtown, and celebrating the 20th anniversary of Ferragine Greenhouses on Simcoe Road.

The two celebrations were hailed as a sign of the improving economic climate in Bradford.

Holland Street once had numerous empty storefronts. Now, said Mayor Rob Keffer, "there's getting to be a shortage of open retail space. It's a sign that people want to invest in our town. It is good news."

Also good news was the continuing success of Ferragine Greenhouses, he said.

Although Ferragine Greenhouses has actually been serving the area since 1972, the retail business was established in 1995, and for the past 20 years, has continued to meet the needs of a grow-

ing community.

Mayor Keffer was joined at the anniversary celebration by Deputy Mayor James Leduc, and Councillors Mark Contois, Ron Orr, Gary Baynes, Peter Ferragine — whose parents own the greenhouse, and who helped out at the party — and Ward 3 Councillor Gary Lamb.

"Agriculture, you know, is really important in Ward 3," Councillor Lamb said, noting that 20 years ago, Ferragine Greenhouses was one of the key businesses that stepped in to help the Downtown Revitalization committee of the day beautify the downtown core of Bradford with flowering baskets and barrels — the start of an ongoing process of revitalization.

The anniversary at Ferragine Greenhouses included draws, a free barbecue, face-painting, a visit from The Ice Princess, and a bouncy castle for the kids — as well as birthday cake.



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

From right, BWG Mayor Rob Keffer and MPP Julia Munro watch as Christine and Tony Ferragine cut the cake celebrating the 20th anniversary of Ferragine Greenhouses on Simcoe Rd., as sons Robert and Peter look on.



Having his face painted by the Ice Princess, Kyle, 5, opts for a dragon, at the 20th anniversary celebration of Ferragine Greenhouses.

Shopping with heart... ReSource Thrift Shop

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

The ReSource Thrift Shop is more than just another thrift store.

"Two years ago, the Lord placed in our hearts to open this store to support the Christian school in the Marsh, and charities," explained Maria Wilcox. The store, located at 118 Holland St. East in the Ingollia plaza and staffed entirely by volunteers, will sell good quality donated household items and clothing, to raise money for the Holland Marsh District Christian School on Graham Sideroad, and other charitable causes — with 100% of the proceeds after expenses going to the charities.

The organizers took over a portion of the former Oasis grocery store and began renovations back in February. On June 10, the doors opened — and on June 27, the official ribbon cutting took place, in front of a crowd of supporters, volunteers, shoppers and dignitaries.

"It has been wonderful — the town has been wonderful," Wilcox said, also giving credit to the



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Bradford Mayor Rob Keffer (with scissors) is joined by MPP Julia Munro, Councillor Gary Baynes, MPP Peter Van Loan and ReSource volunteers and organizers at the grand opening of the thrift shop.

plaza owners for being "wonderfully supportive" of the concept and the renovations.

ReSource Thrift Shop is bright, clean and welcoming, with well-organized shelves and racks carrying everything from children's toys, to clothing for men, women and children, household and decor items, artwork and books.

"We're keeping stuff out of the landfill. We're getting stuff to people who want it, at affordable prices," says Andrea Vander Kool.

Some of the donated items are of extremely high quality, including leaded crystal, col-

lector dolls, Royal Doulton tea cups. "There's some fascinating stuff," Vander Kool says. Those items are kept in a display case, behind glass, for a monthly silent auction; bidders still get bargains, but the school gets a bigger return.

Attending the ribbon cutting were members of the Bradford Board of Trade, town councillors, York-Simcoe MPP Julia Munro, and MPP Peter Van Loan.

MPP Van Loan congratulated the organizers for their "motivations and good causes," that will make a difference in the community. "This is filling a

gap in the market," he said, expressing a hope that "the enthusiasm we see here carries on and carries on."

Mayor Rob Keffer noted that "people get rid of things before the useful life of things is over." ReSource will provide a great opportunity for those items to be reused, in a way that helps the community.

The opening was also praised as another step in the revitalization of downtown Bradford. "This big building was sitting here empty," said Ward 2 Councillor Gary Baynes. "You and others are making this part of town vibrant again. Thank you so much!"

"It was a long time in coming, and without all of the support of the school family, it would not have been," responded Wilcox. "There's been trials and tribulations, but — we've signed a 10-year lease!"

Note: ReSource Thrift Shop accepts donations of good quality, gently-used clothing and household items, Monday to Friday. The store is open on Saturdays, but no donations can be accepted at that time.

NOTICES

From Jun.1-Sept.30, lawn/garden watering is permitted only from 6pm to 8am and only at:
EVEN numbered addresses on EVEN numbered days and ODD numbered addresses on ODD numbered days

Town of BWG By-law 2014-27

Let's protect BWG's resources!

Report by-law violations by calling:
905-775-5366 ext.1301

Voice-mails are forwarded to officers on duty.

CONSTRUCTION NOTICE

Road Improvements on Line 12 and Sideroad 20

WHERE:

Line 12 from County Road 4 (Yonge Street) to Sideroad 20, AND Sideroad 20 from Line 12 to 700m north of Line 13

WHEN:

Beginning July 6 and continuing through fall 2015

WHAT:

- Tree removal from the road right of way
- Culvert repairs and/or widening
- Road-side ditching
- Road surface removal
- Road widening and granular placement
- Asphalt paving

HOW YOU MAY BE AFFECTED:

The section of Sideroad 20 between Line 12 and Line 13 will be closed during reconstruction. There will be workers and equipment on the roadway, which will cause delays to traffic, as well as dust at various times throughout construction. These issues will be mitigated as much as possible.

We apologize for the temporary inconvenience.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Engineering Services: 905-778-2055

100 Dissette St. Unit 7 & 8, Bradford,
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Extension 1100

Website: www.townofbwg.com

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1 Bradford Lions 2013 Mammals Draw Ticket with every Sale in July & August with me!

Tickets also available for \$100 each

Please call me at 289-338-7666

Mike Saunders*

June 19, 2013 marked Century 21's Heritage's 85th Bradford Children's Charity Fun Run!

The event was a wonderful success thanks to the support that was received from members of the community and businesses in the surrounding area. Without the community support, it would not have been possible. Century 21's Heritage would like to express their most sincere appreciation to everyone who helped to make the event a success.

Thank you to all!

Thank you to all!

Thank you to all!

OPEN HOUSE SAT JULY 27TH 12-2PM

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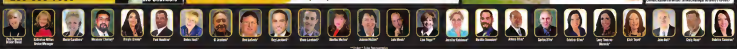
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*Photo: Mike Saunders

Sports Briefs

Slo-pitch for Jaxon

A co-ed slo-pitch tournament at the Queensville Ball Diamond, on Saturday, July 18 will be a fundraiser for Jaxon.

Jaxon Osmond was born October 19, 2010 with cerebral palsy. He has spent his days travelling back and forth to hospitals, including Sick Kids in Toronto and the London Health Sciences Centre, with parents

Stacey and Chris Osmond. The tourney will raise funds for the family to help cover the costs associated with travel and treatment.

Entry fee is \$300 per mixed team (six men, four ladies), for guaranteed four games, and a backyard party for the division winners. For more information, contact Paul at 289-338-9199, to sign up or donate prizes.

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

It's difficult for Bill and Sandra Bagg to talk about the loss of their son, Randy – but the issues are so big, and the need for open dialogue so important, that they set aside their personal feelings at the golf tournament held in his memory, at the Bradford Highlands GC, June 27.

Randy was employed at The Highlands, "for six, seven years, and loved it here," said Bill. "He spent many a summer

here. He learned to play golf here," added Sandra, describing her son as "a great kid, intelligent, compassionate." Randy had enrolled in the paramedic course at Georgian College, and the future seemed bright, when he took his own life on November 6, 2014. He was 20.

What his friends didn't know, what his family didn't know, was that depression was more than just a temporary mood swing for Randy. "We didn't fully understand the depth of it," said Sandra.

It is only since going to counselling, in the wake of Randy's death, that the Baggas have realized not only the extent of his depression, but just how common it is, especially among young people.

In the parent group they joined, they met five other families coping with similar loss. "All these kids had benefits, were well-brought-up – and one night, they're gone," said Bill.

The Baggas have come to realize that one of the biggest barriers is the lack of communication: kids ashamed or unwilling to approach their parents; parents not knowing where to start the dialogue. That realization has led them to take action.

During the school year, the Baggas handed out "Break the Silence for Randy" bracelets to about 250 senior students at Bradford District High School – each bracelet packaged with a card that lists crisis health lines that kids can call when overwhelmed with feelings of despair or depression.

The Baggas also established a new peer leadership award, to be presented to a graduating student at BDHS who shows compassion and positive attitude, this year won by Danielle Baxter.

And on June 27, they hosted



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

The golf tournament held in memory of Randy Bagg at The Highlands Golf Club of Bradford raised funds for the new mobile mental health clinic, MOBYSS, launched by the CMHA. From right, Bill Bagg, nurse practitioner with MOBYSS Michelle Hermans, Sandra Bagg, and family Kyle, Sean and Samantha.

the Golfing for Randy tournament, raising funds for the new MOBYSS mobile mental health clinic for children and youth, established by the Canadian Mental Health Association and active in York Region and South Simcoe since April of this year.

They have a message for young people, struggling with mental health issues: "There's help. Speak up. Ask for help," said Bill.

"Don't be ashamed – there's nothing to be ashamed of," said Sandra. "If you're losing interest in what used to be very passionate for you, reach out. There are signs – reach out. Please ask for help, from somebody, somewhere."

Kids need to know "their lives are more important than they realize – they are so important to so many people," she added.

And parents need to watch for subtle changes in attitude, loss of interest, "the look in their eyes; you can see the spark fading... Talk to your children. Don't be afraid to ask the difficult questions. Tell them you'll

help them find the answers, if you don't know," said Sandra.

The Baggas say it is time to break the silence, on mental health – especially since the statistics show that one in five Canadians will experience mental health issues in their lifetime.

Open dialogue "has to start," said Sandy – "if not with parents, then with a trusted teacher, a health professional, or resource like the MOBYSS clinic.

Because, said Bill, with dialogue, understanding, and help, "there is a light at the end of the tunnel."

The information card handed out to students lists a number of emergency lines for kids to call, in crisis:

Kids under 18 can call the Kids Helpline, 1-800-668-6868; Southlake Regional Health Centre at 905-895-4321; or Community Crisis Response Services, 905-310-COPE, or 911.

Youth over 18 are encouraged to call Southlake, the Community Crisis Services, 911, or contact CMHA at www.cmha.ca.

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- Information Hand-outs and Door Prizes

Date & Time: Wednesday July 22nd, 2015, 6:00pm

Location: B.W.G. Public Library, Board Room
425 Holland St. W., Bradford



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Community Listings

FRI., JULY 3

BRADFORD RIBFEST: July 3-5 in front of the Zehrs Market at 500 Holland St. West in Bradford. Ribz, BBQ chicken, Midway, Bull ride, vendors - and great live entertainment on the main stage.

SAT., JULY 4

REBECCA RUN FOR SMA: The ESSO Rebecca Run for Spinal Muscular Atrophy takes place at Fairy Lake Park in Newmarket. 5K Run at 9 a.m., KidsFun Run at 10 a.m., 3K Walk/Run at 10:15 a.m. Pre-register at www.rebeccarun.com

SUN., JULY 5

URBAN FISHING FESTIVAL: And Learn to Fish Program, at Fairy Lake Park in Newmarket, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Learn to Fish festival is available to those who register at learnfish@ontario.ca - with one hour of dry land instruction starting at 9 a.m., and covering fishing basics, safety, species ID, basic tackle and conservation, followed by fishing! A limited number of rods and reels will be available to be borrowed, on a first-come, first-served basis. Free bait, hot dogs and drink for the kids!

TUES., JULY 7

MUSEUM AFTER HOURS: Spirit Tour of the Simcoe County Museum, 1151 Hwy. 26 north of Barrie. A moonlit tour of the Museum! Regular admission rates apply. Call 705-728-3721 for details.

WED., JULY 8

LEARN TO CAMP: At the Bradford Public Library, 1 to 2:30 p.m., with Ontario Parks. Free information and demonstrations.

SUN., JULY 12

CEMETERY TOUR: With the BWG Local History Association. Meet at Bond Head Church on Hwy. 88 at 1 p.m. A bus will take participants on the tour, for only \$5 per person - but please RSVP to Jan Coward, 905-806-6051 or janow@sympatico.ca by July 5. Members, please bring cookies or squares for refreshments after the Tour.

MON., JULY 13

GILFORD & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETS: At the Churchill Community Centre in Churchill, Innisfil at 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker is Doug Rolling of ABELL Pests, about new and effective means of pest control, and IPM. Flower show for members will include Best Lily Award. Last meeting before September.

WED., JULY 15

PROBUS CLUB MEETS: Bradford's 2nd PROBUS Club, a Social Club for retired and semi-retired PROFESSIONAL and BUSINESS people meets at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2940-10 SR in Bradford, 10 a.m. to 12. Guest speaker is Caroline Kervan, on Education in Third World Countries. Refreshments. New members welcomed.

SAT., JULY 18

CO-ED SLO-PITCH TOURNAMENT FOR JAXON: Fundraiser for a child with cerebral palsy, at the Queensville Ball Diamond. Entry is \$300 per mixed team, 4 game guarantee. Prizes. For information contact Paul at 289-338-9199. Donations welcomed.

TUES., JULY 21

ALZHEIMER SUPPORT GROUP: Meets at CHATS, 448 Holland St. West in Bradford, at 10 a.m. Family and friends caring for those with Alzheimer's or related dementias will share education and coping strategies in a safe place. For info, call the Alzheimer Society, 705-722-1066.

SAT., JULY 25

TREASURE SALE: Hosted at another Treasure Sale, 8 to 11 a.m. at the church, 66 Barrie St. in Bradford. By donation.

EUCHRE PARTY: Bradford United Church hosts a Euchre Party, 1:30-3:30 p.m., at 66 Barrie St. in Bradford. \$10 includes Euchre, pizza and refreshments. At the door - all welcome.

CELEBRATE LAKE SIMCOE SPLASH FLOATING WATER FESTIVAL: Innisfil Beach Park, from 8 a.m. - displays, food, music, games, arts

and crafts for the whole family. Free. See www.splashfestival.ca

MEETINGS

AL-ANON: Meets Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Holy Martyrs of Japan Church Basement, 167 Essa St. in Bradford. For more information, www.al-anon.ca or call 1-888-4AL-ANON

HELP FOR IMMIGRANTS: Bradford Immigrant & Community Services (BICS) located at 11 Holland St. East offers English Language Classes for Newcomers to Canada, Settlement Assistance, Integration into

Canadian School System; Parenting Workshops; Translation and Interpretation Services, Information and referral, advocacy and more. 905-775-3343 or see www.bradfordimmigrant.com

BWG COMMUNITY MEAL: BWG Community Initiative hosts a hot meal at 5:30 p.m. Every Friday evening at Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie St. All welcome - doors open at 5 p.m.

CHURCH FOOD SALES: St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 721 Simcoe Rd., Bradford. Fundraising perogies and cabbage roll sales every Saturday only from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info: call the church at 905-551-1651.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP: Meets at CHATS, 448 Holland St. West in Bradford on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. An opportunity to get out, meet

other caregivers, share stories and strategies and find new ways to cope. Free, but register by calling Marc at 1-866-677-3048 or cm.terrance@chats.on.ca



Springdale Christian Reformed Church
1461 Sideroad #6, Bradford.
905-775-3731
Sundays 10:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Sunday School & Nursery
Pastor Paul VanStralen
www.springdalecortn.ca

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
53 Miller Park Ave., Bradford
905-775-3412
Sunday Service:
10:00 a.m.

Bond Head United Church
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Come check us out
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Holy Martyrs of Japan Catholic Church
187 Essa St. Bradford
905-775-3985
Masses
Sat. 5:00 p.m., Sun. 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
Confessions
1/2 hour before Sunday mass.

Trinity Anglican Church
62 Church St., Bradford
(Corner of Church & James St.)
Sunday Service 10 am
Sunday School Available
905-775-2200
trinityanglicanbradford.com

Bradford United Church
66 Barrie St., Bradford
905-775-7268
Service - 10 am
Sunday School Available
www.bradfordunited.com

St. John's Presbyterian
2940 - 10th Sideroad
(8th Line & Middlebrook SR)
905-775-7274
Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Nursery provided.
stjohnspresbyterian.ca

The Baha'i World Faith
905-551-2219
www.Baha'olog

Almudaya Muslim Jama'at
Friday Prayer Service 1:30pm
"At Madrassa Almadaya"
3099 10 Sideroad
led by Imam MHA Ahmad
For further details, contact
Imam Bilal 1-647-983-9652

Bradford Community Church
Mid-week small group
905-775-6088, located on the S.E. corner of Hwy #11 & Conc. 49
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Nursery - Birth to 13 years Old - 4:12 yrs

St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church
721 Simcoe Rd. Bradford
Bilingual Services
Lunary Sunday & Feast
Days 10:00 am
Phone 905-775-0105

Riverdrive Bible Chapel
905-836-1798
82048 Sideroad (North of Hwy 11)
11:00 am - Family Bible Hour
1:00 pm - Allcomen Service
7:30 pm Wed - Prayer - Bible Study
VBS July 13 - 17, 9:30 am - 11:45

Holland Marsh Christian Reformed Church
1893 Dufferin St., R.R. 4, Newmarket
Sundays 10:00 am & 6:00 pm
Sunday School & Nursery with services
Mid-week youth & adult programs
Rev. Richard Bodin
905-775-7291
E: hollandmarsh@rogies.com

Greater Life Community Church
The Church in the Library
425 Holland St. W, Bradford
Christian Education: 10:30 am
Morning Worship: 11:00 am
(847) 718-7849
www.greaterlifeonline.com

St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church
(Byronia Hse)
16 Meers St. Bond Head, Sunday Eucharist:
9:30am (Roman), 11:30am (English)
905-775-6018
info@stcatherineofalexandria.ca

Seventh-day Adventist Community Church
16 School Street, Holland Landing
289-803-0736
Bible Study Saturdays: 9:15am
Main Worship: 11:00am
Every Wednesday Prayer Night: 7-8:30pm

Downtown renovation

THE TOWN OF BRADFORD West Gwillimbury has designated a Community Improvement Plan Area in Downtown Bradford, offering a "toolbox" of incentives in the hope that storeowners will renovate and revitalize their businesses. Lloyd's Mennonite Furniture, in business for over 20 years, is currently renovating their Bradford store. Its fine hand-crafted Canadian-made furniture can still be viewed at its Schomburg Gallery, and online while store is closed in Bradford

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

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Golfing for foundation

(STAFF) The Nottawasaga Foundation's Charity Golf Tourney, dinner and silent auction has raised over \$4.6 million, over the past 22 years - and organizers were hoping that the 23rd annual tournament, which took place June 26, would add at least another \$350,000 to the total.

The money raised goes to a wide range of causes, including the Children's Aid Society, Stevenson Memorial Hospital in Alliston, St. Frederick Banting Homestead, Learning Disabilities Association, Clinics on the Run Simcoe County, South Simcoe Arts Council,

and the Community Living Association of South Simcoe.

The 45-hole open tourney, and nine-hole ladies golf tournament - which included an afternoon of pampering by the pool - drew hundreds of golfers to the Nottawasaga Inn & Resort's premier golf courses on Friday.

Lou Biffis, owner of the resort and founder of the Nottawasaga Foundation, was on hand at first light, to personally greet the ladies before they headed out on the course at 8:30 a.m., and welcome all back for the dinner and silent auction fund-raiser in the evening.



Lou Biffis welcomes long-time foundation supporter, Innisfil Deputy Mayor Lynn Dollin.



MIRIAM KING/POSTMEDIA NETWORK
Cowgirls, from right, Debbie Watson, Bev Shaw, Sharon Murphy and Sandra Higgins.



MIRIAM KING/POSTMEDIA NETWORK
'Team Innisfil' at the Nottawasaga Foundation Ladies' Golf Tournament - from left, Gabi Borge, Lynn Dollin, Innisfil Deputy Mayor, Nancy Stein and Debra Harrison.

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Engagements



Mr. & Mrs. Mike Kanyo and their family are proud to announce the engagement of their son
MICHAEL WILLIAM KANYO
to
FONTANE CHOI
daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Choi of Brampton

Fortcoming Marriages



Jim and Kathy Krueger and Lino and Isabel Papai of Bradford, Ontario are delighted to announce the upcoming marriage of their children, Jacqueline Krueger and Nelson Papai. Engaged in beautiful Portugal on August 17, 2014, the happy couple will be joined by family and friends to celebrate their special wedding day on September 26, 2015. With love and best wishes for a lifetime of happiness.
Dad & Mom Krueger and Dad & Mom Papai

Graduations

GREGORY JAMES SKERRATT



Congratulations to Greg for achieving his degree from the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Western Ontario School of Kinesiology, graduating with honours and distinction. Greg will be returning to Western in the fall to complete a Masters of Science in Clinical Anatomy with the Schulich School of Medicine.

Obituaries

HARVIE, Belinda Frances Maria - (Former employee of The Real Canadian Superstore, Newmarket) Peacefully passed away at home with family at her side on Saturday, June 27, 2015. Belinda Harvie (nee Jacobs) of Bradford and formerly of Scarborough at 50 years of age. Beloved wife of Paul. Loving mother of Eric Harvie and Emily Harvie. At Belinda's request, private family arrangements have been held. On behalf of Belinda and her family, a special thank you to family and friends for respecting her wishes during this trying time. In Belinda's memory, donations may be made to the Stomach Regional Cancer Centre at Southlake Regional Health Centre. Newsletters - Arrangements entrusted to **SKWARCHUK FUNERAL HOME**, Bradford.

IMHOFF, Henry - Peacefully passed away at his home, surrounded by family on Monday, June 29, 2015. Henry Imhof of Allison at 80 years of age. Beloved husband of Rosemarie. Loving dad of Angela and her husband Nelson Barroso. Proud Ops of Jordan, Adam and Evan. Dear brother of Melanie (Marlin) and late Rita (Werner). Dear brother-in-law of Adolf (Belinda) Storr. Henry will be fondly remembered by his nieces and nephews. Friends may call at **SKWARCHUK FUNERAL HOME**, 30 Simcoe Rd., Bradford for a memorial visitation on Sunday, July 5, 2015 from 1-4 p.m. Memorial Mass will be held on Monday, July 6, 2015 at St. Paul's the Apostle Catholic Church, 190 King St. S., Allison at 10:30 a.m. In Henry's memory, donations may be made to the Stomach Regional Cancer Centre at Southlake Regional Health Centre, Newmarket.

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Simcoe Volunteer Readers recognize success

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

The Simcoe Volunteer Reader Program, created by Peter Ellis based on the Nelson PM+ reading series, is a program that pairs adult volunteers with young students who are struggling with their reading.

The volunteers sit with each child for 15 minutes per week, at the school, as the child reads a series of increasingly more advanced books. Whenever a reading level is successfully completed, the child receives a different colour of ribbon, to take home.

The program combines practice and encouragement - and it works, says Ellis.

The Volunteer Reader program is now in three Bradford schools - Sir William Osler PS, where the program was first introduced; Fieldcrest Elementary, and for the first time, Chris Hadfield Public School.

Ellis relies on a small army of volunteers, many of them members of the PROBUS Club, a social club for retired and semi-retired professional and business people, to bring the program to the schools.

June 25 was the last day of the 2014-2015 school year, and at Fieldcrest, the volunteer readers received Falcon Awards for their achievements in reading, as Ellis and several of the adult volunteers added their congratulations.

The program will take a break for the summer, but when school begins in September, Ellis is hoping that the program - and the volunteers - will be back.

He is always looking for additional volunteers, willing to commit an hour per week to the Simcoe Volunteer Reader program. For more information, contact Peter Ellis at 705-458-4852.



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Students at Fieldcrest Elementary School who participated in the Simcoe Volunteer Reader program receive Falcon Awards, and congratulations from librarian Kara Swale Black (left) and volunteers (at right) Shirley Muzychka, Peter Ellis, Christine and Matthew Granger, at the school.



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

2015 graduating class at Sir William Osler Public School - a record 25 students - in Bond Head.

Graduation day at SWOPS

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

June 24 was Graduation Day at Sir William Osler Public School, located at the edge of Bond Head, and there seemed to be some kind of competition, to see who could arrive in the best ride.

A classic car was impressive - until grad Riley Prentice pulled into the parking lot riding in a heavy tow truck, and Spencer Harrison arrived in a big blue New Holland Tractor.

"That's his pride and joy," said proud dad Dennis.

Graduation was a family celebration at the small rural school. Family members took photos with cell phones and iPads as the Grade 8s, dressed to the nines, posed for a class photo outdoors, then headed inside for the formal ceremony.

Even there, informality reigned. The gym was decorated on the theme, "Under the Sea," and parents, grandparents and siblings sat at

round tables, under Japanese lanterns transformed into floating jellyfish.

On each family table was a scrapbook, titled "I Want to Be Me," put together by their student to capture the memories of their time at SWOPS, and their hopes for the future.

It was a time to say farewell to the school, both for the Grade 8s, and for some of the staff; teacher Mrs. Barr was retiring, after 31 years as an educator.

School's out for the summer

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

School is out for the summer, and kids are looking forward to long, sunny, summer days.

But parents are seeing dark clouds on the horizon.

September looks like it could be stormy time, as a result of labour unrest and the potential for an all-out teachers' strike.

Elementary school teachers with the public school boards are already in the midst of job action, and have been working to rule. Some secondary school teachers have already walked off the job, although they were legislated back to work while negotiations are ongoing.

September could be another story. Not only elementary and secondary school teachers, but teachers with the Catholic and French school boards will be in a strike position. If there is no progress in talks over the summer months - and the province has already indicated that



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Processional - Bradford District High School's graduating class of 2015, received their diplomas at the Bradford Community Centre Arena.

there are no new dollars in the pot - a fall strike seems inevitable.

But on June 25, the last day of the 2014-2015 school year, there were end-of-school assemblies and awards, class parties, and farewells to favourite teachers and principals, who were retiring or moving on to new schools.

Grade 8 graduates said goodbye to their schools, looking forward to starting high school. High School graduates received their diplomas, and words of encouragement from teachers, political guests and educators, moving on to post-secondary education or work experience.

Students everywhere are looking forward to a long summer - which could end up being longer than anyone could imagine.



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